

BROOKLYN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



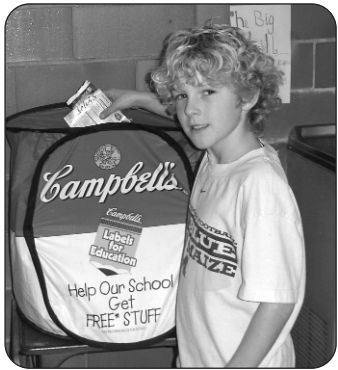
"Message from the Principal" - Ms. Debra Powell

By the time you read this, the holiday season will only be a memory and 2007 will be into full swing. It is so hard to believe that one half of the school year will be completed in a short time and before we know it June will be here! In looking over the past few months, we have completed a great deal at BES. We started our school year with *The First Ten Days*. A MEAP preparation program to ensure our students were right where they needed to be in time for the MEAP in October. From here, our staff began working on school improvement goals, which includes piloting an assessment program for lower elementary and developing a program for upper elementary. This program is to identify student's literacy level and determine interventions. Finally, teachers are implementing *Collins Writing* across the curriculum. All staff completed initial training over the summer months and Mr. Mark Dressel, *Collins Writing* consultant, visited our building to instruct teachers in the classroom too. Not only do we want to see our students succeed academically, but in the arts as well. This year we have a great addition to our staff, our new music teacher Ms. Kristi Hatch. With great pride, "The Big Chill" was debuted under her direction by the second and third graders in December. As you can see, the first half of the year has been very busy at BES. As we complete the remaining school year, we look forward to providing updates on many more successes!

M"mmm Good Deal

Article by: Mr. Jeff Bush, Reporter

Nothing taste better with that grilled cheese sandwich than a bowl of Campbell's Tomato Soup...just don't forget to clip the label. For more than thirty years, Labels for Education has been awarding free educational equipment to schools. Brooklyn Elementary School averages around 15,000 labels per school year and they all don't have to be from soup. PTO President, Ms. Laurie Rudd states that, "There are many products other than soups that are eligible under this program. Some include Campbell's beans, tomato juice, V8 juices, many Franco American products such as gravies, pasta sauces, and SpaghettiOs. Also many Pepperidge Farm products, Pace salsas and Picante, and Prego pasta sauce." Most everyone has a product in their cupboard right now. Cutting labels is great but there is a new twist to the program. Labels for Education requests that only the UPC Barcode portion of the label be redeemed. If everyone just sent in the barcode then at least one PTO member would be very grateful. "Ms. Monika Cook has spent countless hours clipping (barcodes) and counting labels." Noted Ms. Rudd. Ouch! The labels are converted to points, which can be used toward purchases from their catalog. Some of the items our PTO has purchased over the last few years include paper cutters, CD players, computer software, easel, classroom supplies, balls, jump ropes, and other playground items. "I'm told you can even purchase a minivan for something like a million labels," Ms. Rudd states. That's a lot of soup and sandwiches! So next time you open that can on any of the above mentioned products, take a second to cut out the barcode and send to the attention of your PTO through the elementary school office.



BES PTO MEETINGS at 6:00 p.m.
January 6, 2007 • February 20, 2007
March 20, 2007 • April 17, 2007 • May 15, 2007



Summer Reading in Brooklyn

James Holcombe and Ivan Pangergo were the BES Summer Library winners. James won a handmade quilt and Ivan won tickets to the Full Blast Family Entertainment Center in Battle Creek. Summer Library participants met on Tuesday mornings and Thursday evenings for six weeks. Every time a child would come to the program and read they would put a ticket, with their name on it, in a bucket. At the end of the six week period two names were drawn for prizes. The group averaged about 25 to 30 children a session and it sounds like everybody was a winner in the end.

Carnival Fun at BES

Article by: Mr. Jeff Bush, Reporter

The annual Brooklyn Elementary School Carnival featured a quilt raffle, cakewalk, games, treats and a haunted house. The PTO event was fast paced with many smiling faces roaming the hallways of BES. Children participated in a variety of games challenging their skills. They threw beanbags at targets, used a ball to knock down pins, and picked lucky ducks from a pond to name a few. Coloring books were the prizes for winners that were able to navigate the games. Everyone received a sticker or candy for his or her participation in the games. Over at the cake walk the excitement was rising. Music played as children walked around a circle marked by numbers. When the music stopped you stop on a number and wait for the number to be called to win a cake. Damon Messer's face lit up when his number was called. It took eight tries, but he finally won a cake. "I have been on it from the start. About a half hour," exclaimed Damon. He yelled out, "Dad, Dad, I finally won" as he ran out of the room. Beautiful quilts were raffled off at the carnival. Students designed and made squares for each quilt and PTO Moms sewed them together. As kids and parents made their way through the hallways, stopping in each room to play games, eventually they would come to the haunted house. The usual suspects were there to excite the children. Children worked their way through the maze being surprised at every turn. They were often smiling and red faced as they exited the haunted chamber. With so many things going on at once there was obviously a lot of work put into this event. All of the workers were volunteers from various aspects of the community. One volunteer from the CCHS Key Club was student, Jim Gubics who worked the Q-bowl. "I signed up for a lot of stuff," said Jim. "It's usually fun and I like working with kids. I'm a person who pretty much likes to help other people." Lots of fun was had by all, and on the way out, one more stop by the Elephant Ears Wagon sweetened the event even more.



THE BIG CHILL

Brooklyn Elementary School's second grade students, along with some third graders, performed their musical in December...*The Big Chill*. The musical selections are combined with small skits in between. In the skit, the story unfolds as students and teachers hear on the radio that there will be a blizzard coming through their area. They sing different songs and dialect and eventually realize they both are hoping for the same thing: A snow day! A delight to see the musical talents of our students, and it was a great evening of entertainment for all.



2007

2008

Kindergarten Registration

Columbia School District

If you have a student who will be starting Kindergarten in the fall and would like to attend the Columbia School District, please pick up a registration packet at the Miller Elementary or Brooklyn Elementary School offices. There will be a Parent Meeting on Tuesday, April 24th at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center at Brooklyn Elementary and on Thursday April 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center at Miller Elementary.

Please bring the following items to the parent meeting:

- Your completed kindergarten packet
- Your child's Immunization record
- An original birth certificate (we will copy items for you)
- Proof of residency (telephone, electric bill, etc.)
- **Your child must be 5 years old by December 1, 2007.**

Note: Kindergarten packets will be available after March 2007, and completed packets may be returned to respective school offices anytime prior to the meeting.

"Meet & Greet" for all of our future Kindergarten students will be held at the respective elementary buildings on Monday, May 7th at 2 p.m.

If you have any questions regarding Kindergarten registration - please contact:

MILLER ELEMENTARY AT 592-2157
 Ms. Pam Anderson - Secretary, Mr. Geoff Bontrager - Principal
BROOKLYN ELEMENTARY AT 592-6632
 Ms. Jackie Richardson - Secretary, Ms. Deb Powell - Principal